(b) and (d) From the above it will be seen that the goals in respect of Death rate, Effective Couple Protection Rate and Infant Mortarlity Rate had already been reached and surpassed. However, in order to check the birth rate in the country, a number of new initiatives have been taken to impart a new thrust and dynamism to the Family Welfare Programme. In this context a draft Action Plan has been evolved in consultation with the State Governments Union Territories Administration. The draft Action Plan is directed towards improvement of the quality and outreach of health and family welfare services, expansion of the prorgam-mes for mother and child health care, better inter-sectrol coordination, meaningful information, education and communication efforts, greater participation of the people in the Family Welfare Programmes and evolving a national consensus for imparting a new momentum to population control efforts. The draft Action Plan is being further examined by the State Government/Union Territories Administration and other oncerned departments of the Government for possible improvements, before it is finalised and put to implementation.

**AIDS eases in Karnataka**

533. SHRI J. P. JAVALI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "AIDS crisis looms large over Karnataka" which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 3rd October, 1991;

(b) if so, what is the number of persons affected by AIDS in that State alongwith the cause of the same; and

(c) *what* action is being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHAKTHA): (a) Yes.

(b) As per the information available 63 HIV infected/Seropositive cases have been reported from the State of Karnataka, out of which only 1 person developed full blown AIDS. Most of the HTV infected cases are professional blood donors and hetro-sexualy promiscuous persons.

(c) The Union Government has taken adequate steps to determine the prevelence of HIV infection in the State b yorganising a surveilance system which includes clinical, serological and sentinal surveilance. The Union Government has also released Rs. 10.00 lakhs for establishment of AIDS unit in Bangalore Medical College for treatment and care of HIV infected cases. For clinical management of AIDS cases, 20 Medical Offi-cers and 20 Nurses of Medical College, Mangalore, have been trained. Zonal blood testing centres are being established in a phased manner so that the blood banks can be linked to these centres for purpose of HTV testing.

A comprehensive project for the prevention and control of AIDS has been formulated and a World Bank team visited India in October/November, 1991 and have completed appraisal. The following areas will be strengthened:

—Surveillance

—Prevention of sexual transmission through Information, Education and Communication.

—Promotion of blood safety.

—Training of medical/para medical personnel in infection control.